



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 8, 1997

S.758

Lobbying Disclosure Technical Amendments Act of 1997

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs
on November 5, 1997*

CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no significant impact on the federal budget. S. 758 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 758 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 758 would make a number of technical clarifications to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995. It would exclude from the definition of a "covered executive branch official" certain employees, including members of the Senior Executive Service, and amend the definition of "lobbying contact" and "public official" to clarify certain exemptions. S. 758 also would allow a qualifying nonprofit organization or business to meet its semiannual lobbying reporting requirement by filing with the Senate and the House of Representatives the same report filed to satisfy requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. Finally, the bill would amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to exempt from a requirement to register as a foreign agent anyone who has engaged in lobbying activities and has registered under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995. According to the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, these changes largely codify existing practices.

The CBO contact for this estimate is Mary Maginniss. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.